Management response to the mid-term review of the DMFAS Programme

Response by recommendation

In this section, Project Management should address each recommendation that is addressed to UNCTAD, discussing them in the order presented in the evaluation report. This should be done in the format of the Management Response matrix below (see Box 1) and include:

a. The recommendation number and text copied from the evaluation report;
b. Indication of whether the recommendation is accepted fully, partially, or rejected;
c. Description of the actions to be taken, with comments as required on the conditions to be met during implementation, or on reasons leading to a partial acceptance or rejection of a recommendation;
d. The responsible party for implementing the action/s;
e. The time-frame for implementation and/or an implementation schedule, if required;
f. Indication if and what resources are required for implementing the recommendation.

Box 1.   Management response matrix[1]

Management response to the mid-term review of the DMFAS Programme					Date
Evaluation Recommendation (a)	**Management response (b)** **Accepted**, **partially accepted or** **rejected**	**Management plan**			
		Actions to be taken, and/or comments about partial acceptance or rejection (c)	**Responsible unit (d)**	**Timeframe (e)**	**Resources required (Y or N) (f)**
Recommendation 1: DMFAS should solidify its high relevance among users, donors and stakeholders by accelerating the implementation of DMFAS 7 in all user countries through ensuring that rollout begins in 2023 and establishing a plan in 2023 for implementation in all beneficiary countries, in consultation with those countries.	Accepted	1) Beta-test DMFAS 7 in 2 countries 2) Do first installation 3) Establish high-level plan for rollout of new version across current user countries.	DMFAS Programme	By 31/12/2023	

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[1]   Each column is cross-referenced to the bullet letters above.

Recommendation 2: DMFAS should clearly communicate to beneficiary countries the support that it can offer for the creation of DMFAS links with domestic debt systems and other financial management systems.	Accepted	1) Highlight the services on the DMFAS Website 2) Include article on DMFAS Newsletter that promotes these services	DMFAS Programme	By 30/09/2023	
Recommendation 3: DMFAS should extend the duration of its current strategic to December 2024.	Accepted	1) Obtain endorsement of extension of strategic plan from DMFAS Advisory Group 2) Modify strategic plan to cover period 1/1/2024 to 31/12/2024 3) Publish updated strategic plan on DMFAS Website	DMFAS Programme	By 31/1/2023	
Recommendation 4: UNCTAD should create a staff position similar to a Chief Software Development Officer (CSDO), to ensure the successful implementation of DMFAS 7 in user countries.	Partially Accepted	Make proposal to UNCTAD Senior Management to create a temporary senior position in the DMFAS programme. Full acceptance and implementation of the recommendation is subject to the approval of the proposal.	DMFAS Programme	By 30/6/2023	

Recommendation 5: DMFAS should continue to support increases in debt transparency and accountability, by (a) providing support to DMOs for incorporating fiscal contingencies systematically in debt databases, and (b) offering SAIs training to improve their capacity to evaluate debt transparency and debt reporting.	Accepted	Support for these two areas will be incorporated into the new DMFAS Strategic Plan 2024-2027	DMFAS Programme	By 31/12/2024
Recommendation 6: DMFAS should evaluate the potential of expanding the number of trained consultants in regions, in order to implement DMFAS 7 quickly, widely, and more efficiently.	Accepted	A feasibility study will be conducted as part of planning for implementation of DMFAS 7.	DMFAS Programme	By 31/12/2023
Recommendation 7: DMFAS should incorporate lessons learned from the development of DMFAS 7 into the Programme's procedures	Accepted	Update the DMFAS software development procedures to include the lessons learned during the DMFAS 7 development process.	DMFAS Programme	By 31/12/2023

for future software development, in order to ensure continuous improvement in DMFAS 7 modules to promptly meet client needs.					
Recommendation 8: DMFAS should evaluate the most cost-effective methods to deliver continuous training in the DMOs that experience high staff turnover.	Accepted	Compare the various options available for providing training to new staff in DMOs in terms of effectiveness and efficiency.	DMFAS Programme	By 31/12/2023	
Recommendation 9: UNCTAD should establish a trust fund - the DMFAS software development trust fund - to finance continuous improvements in DMFAS 7.	Accepted	Setup a trust fund for financing future DMFAS 7 development.	DMFAS Programme with the support of the Budget and Project Finance Section	By 31/12/2023	
Recommendation 10: DMFAS should continue efforts to expand the DMFAS' donor base with the support of UNCTAD high-level	Accepted	Continue implementing the DMFAS Fundraising Strategy.	DMFAS Programme	Immediate	

management and the new UNCTAD fundraising strategy.					
Recommendation 11: DMFAS should facilitate the participation of client countries to continue their participation in cost-sharing in line the revised framework agreed by the DMFAS Advisory Group in 2017.	Accepted	Incorporate the revised framework for cost sharing into the standard project document for countries implementing DMFAS 7.	DMFAS Programme	By 30/6/2023	
Recommendation 12: DMFAS should accelerate the implementation of DMFAS 7 in support of the goal of 40:40:20 funding.	Accepted	Implement the DMFAS 7 implementation plan endorsed by the December 2022 meeting of the DMFAS Advisory Group.	DMFAS Programme	By 31/12/2023	
Recommendation 13: UNCTAD management should examine the feasibility of the DMFAS Programme obtaining an increase in contributions from UN budgets.	Partially accepted	There are significant constraints on providing additional financing to the programme. Make request to UNCTAD Senior Management for additional financing for the DMFAS programme. Full acceptance and implementation of the recommendation is subject to management decision on the request.	DMFAS Programme		

Recommendation 14: DMFAS should increase its potential to attract donor support by recognizing all the contributions of DMFAS Programme to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in its results-based management framework.	Accepted	Update the Logical Framework of the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan to incorporate all the SDGs for which the DMFAS Programme's contribution is measurable.	DMFAS Programme	By 31/12/2023	